

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on Thursday, June 16, 2016 in Room 110 of the DHMH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Ms. Billie Jo O'Donovan called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. Present for the quorum were Ms. Lisa Melody, Mr. John Rouse, Dr. Joan Dawson, Dr. Lisa Samuels Cole, Ms. Billie Jo O'Donovan, and Dr. Charlotte Godfrey.

Staff Present

Anthony DeFranco, AAG, Board Counsel
Christopher Kelter, Executive Director
Danielle Vallone, Board Investigator
Kristen Neville, DHMH
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III

Absent Members

Dr. Scott London
Mr. Kirk Payne
Ms. Ellen Stein
Mr. John Sloan

Agenda Approval

Dr. Dawson made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for May 19, 2016

Dr. Dawson made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Melody seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Kelter announced that Kristen Neville is engaged to be married. The Board congratulated Ms. Neville on her upcoming nuptials.

Regulatory Review

Official Transcript and Name/Address/E-mail Change Notification Requirements

Mr. Kelter reported that the regulatory change was published in the June 10, 2016 Maryland Register and will become effective on June 20, 2016. Mr. Kelter indicated he would e-mail all licensees with information regarding the new requirements on or about June 20, 2016. Mr. Kelter reported that compliance with the mailing address and e-mail requirements are now easier due to the new online electronic reporting system developed by the information technology staff. The new contact information change system is available on the Board's website.

Correction of Penalty Language

Mr. Kelter reported that it is anticipated that the proposed regulatory change would be published in the July 22, 2016 Maryland Register. Mr. Kelter indicated that licensees will be notified and that licensees will have one month to provide official comments on the proposed regulatory change.

Executive Director's Report

SLP Continuing Education Audit – a) Random b) Voluntary

Mr. Kelter reported that there was generally high compliance with the random and voluntary continuing education audits. Mr. Kelter reported that there were no significant changes to the statistics to the audit data provided at the May 2016 meeting.

2016 AUD, SLP, and SLP-A Renewal – Update

Mr. Kelter reported that a total of 1,993 renewal licenses have been issued as of June 15, 2016. Mr. Kelter reported that about 12 renewal applications are in process that could be reasonably expected to be completed prior to the June 30, 2016 deadline.

Winter 2017 – Calculation of New Renewal Fee

Mr. Kelter reported that he was undertaking considerable effort to get a head start on calculating the renewal fee beginning with the Spring 2017 renewal for audiologists and speech-language pathologists. Mr. Kelter indicated that the allowable carryover fund balance would be within acceptable limits at the close of Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Kelter indicated that the renewal fee set in Spring 2017 would accurately reflect the per licensee cost of operating the Board and fulfilling the mandated duties of the Board.

Board Membership Update

Mr. Kelter reported that there was no update regarding the appointment of an E.N.T. physician to the current vacancy and that there was no update regarding the appointments of upcoming vacancies for the audiologist and hearing aid dispenser positions on the Board. Mr. Kelter reported that there were no updates regarding reappointment of current Board members.

Treasurer's Report – John Sloan

Mr. Kelter reported that for the month of May 2016 the Board has available funds in the amount of \$54,311.00.

Statistical Report Ending May 31, 2016

The Board reviewed the Statistical Report in the Board packet. Mr. Kelter requested recommendations from the Board for improvements to reports like the Statistical Report.

Proposal to Codify Reactivation Process

Mr. Kelter gave a brief overview. Mr. DeFranco suggested adding letter C. “The licensee cannot practice on inactive status in the State of Maryland.” There is no statute to authorize inactive status. Mr. Kelter will work on this process. Mr. Kelter will try to convince the professional associations to put in a bill. Ms. O’Donovan made the motion. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Adjournment

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular session meeting pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, 10-508(a) Annotated Code of Maryland. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Kaplan, Au.D.
Chair